

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 PANAMA 00473 212254Z

71

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 AS-01

/062 W

----- 085044

O R 212154Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6443

INFO PANCANAL

USCINCSO

UNCLAS PANAMA 0473

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PN, PINT

SUBJECT: HIGHLIGHTS OF DOCUMENT CIRCULATED IN CHIRIQUI ON  
JANUARY 15, 1975 BY THE "CIVIC DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE  
FOR THE BETTERMENT OF PANAMA"

1. THE DOCUMENT CONSISTED OF AN INTRODUCTION, A LIST  
OF FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES, ADVERSE CONCLUSIONS WHICH  
THE COMMITTEE HAD DRAWN, AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

2. INTRODUCTION: BRIEF INTRODUCTION EXPLAINING THAT  
THE ASSOCIATION WAS MADE UP OF INDIVIDUALS FROM ALL  
SECTORS OF THE COMMUNITY, WHO WERE VOLUNTARILY OFFERING  
THEIR WELL-INTENTIONED ADVICE AND AT THIS TIME CONSIDERED  
IT NECESSARY TO MAKE A DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES  
NEEDED AS A GUIDE FOR THE BETTERMENT AND TRANQUILITY  
OF THE COUNTRY.

FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

PRINCIPLE: MAINTAINING A DEMOCRATIC AND LIBERAL  
TRADITION AS SET DOWN IN THE CONSTITUTION.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 PANAMA 00473 212254Z

CONCLUSION: THE COUNTRY HAS BEEN SET UPON A COURSE WITH NO DETERMINED OBJECTIVES, AND IS DIRECTED IN AN ABSOLUTIST FASHION.

RECOMMENDATIONS: TO PREVENT INTERVENTION BY COMMUNISTS AND OPPORTUNISTS IN THE GOVERNMENT.

--TO PLACE TRAINED AND CAPABLE PROFESSIONALS IN ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS.

--RECOMMEND THAT PERSONS WITH "DOUBTFUL CHARACTER OR REPUTATION, OR DOUBTFUL BEHAVIOR IN PUBLIC LIFE" BE RELIEVED OF THEIR DUTIES AND NOT BE REAPPOINTED TO OTHER POSITIONS (IN GOVERNMENT).

PRINCIPLE: RESPECT FOR PRIVATE PROPERTY.

CONCLUSIONS: THE FLIGHT OF PANAMANIAN CAPITAL CONTINUED CLOSING OF BUSINESSES DUE TO UNCERTAINTY OF SITUATION, LACK OF CONFIDENCE BECAUSE OF UNFAIR COMPETITION WITH PANAMANIAN BUSINESSMEN, WHICH IN TURN RESULT IN AN UNFAIR AND HARMFUL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GOVERNMENT, THE COUNTRY AND BUSINESS.

RECOMMENDATIONS: CREATE INCENTIVES FOR ALL SECTORS, POLITICAL STABILITY AND A TRUSTWORTHY JURIDICAL ORDER.

--DISMISS PUBLIC OFFICIALS WHO DO NOT GIVE FULL ATTENTION TO THEIR DUTIES.

--LAWS WHICH WILL CONSULT ALL THE NATIONAL INTERESTS, IN ORDER TO PREPARE AMENDMENTS WHICH SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN PRESENT LAWS (AFTER HAVING FIRST BEEN ADOPTED BY DIFFERENT SECTORS OF PRODUCTION).

PRINCIPLE: FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION.

CONCLUSION: ANY PERSON DISAGREEING WITH THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT, EVENTHOUGH TELLING THE TRUTH OR ADVANCING CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM, IS IMPRISONED.

RECOMMENDATIONS: OBSERVE ARTICLE 36 OF THE CONSTITUTION WHICH GUARANTEES FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 PANAMA 00473 212254Z

--THAT THREATS OR REPRISALS NOT BE APPLIED TO PUBLIC OFFICIALS WHO ARE FORCED TO ATTEND MEETINGS OR GATHERINGS.

--INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS SHOULD BE RESPECTED WHICH WILL THEN FOSTER A RELATIONSHIP OF TRUST AND CONFIDENCE BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND BUSINESS, AND WHICH WOULD THEN RESULT IN AN EXPANSION OF BUSINESS, EMPLOYMENT AND AN INCREASE IN CONSUMER POWER.

--TO DENOUNCE THOSE RADIO AND NEWSPAPERMEN WHO SEEK TO  
DISTORT AND CONFUSE PUBLIC OPINION.

PRINCIPLE: MAINTAIN THE DEMOCRATIC OBJECTIVES WHICH  
FORM THE BASIS AND PHILOSOPHY BEHIND THE PANAMANIAN  
EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM.

RECOMMENDATIONS: RATHER THAN STRUCTURAL CHANGES,  
EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM NEEDS ADEQUATE PLANNING ORIENTED  
TOWARD RATIONAL USE OF RESOURCES OF THE NATION  
IN THE EDUCATION SECTOR.

--THE NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION BE INTEGRATED BY  
DIFFERENT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PRODUCTION SECTOR  
AND THOSE AFFECTED (WHO ARE THE INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE THE  
KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERTISE TO DISCERN AND DEAL WITH PROBLEMS  
IN THE DIFFERENT ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL AREAS.)

PRINCIPLE: ANTI-COMMUNIST AND ANTI-  
TOTALITARIAN.

CONCLUSION: THERE EXISTS A DANGER WHICH THREATENS THE  
FAMILY MORAL AND FAMILY UNITY, FREEDOM OF RELIGION,  
AS WELL AS THE EXISTENCE OF PRIVATE BUSINESS.

RECOMMENDATIONS: NOT TO ACCEPT ADVICE FROM ANY TOTALITARIAN  
OR COMMUNIST COUNTRY OR COLONY.

--PERMIT CITIZENS TO MAINTAIN THEIR RELIGION AND POLITICAL  
IDEAS AND TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC IDEAS WHICH THEY  
REGARD AS USEFUL.

--REAFFIRM PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE THAT THE GREAT MAJORITY OF  
CITIZENS (CIVIL AND MILITARY) DO NOT ACCEPT THE IDEAS  
OR PROJECTIONS OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY.

3. COPY OF DOCUMENT BEING POUCHED.  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 PANAMA 00473 212254Z

JORDEN

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DOCUMENTS, POLITICAL STABILITY, ANTICOMMUNIST, COMMITTEES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 JAN 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976PANAMA00473  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760023-0468  
**From:** PANAMA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760135/aaaabenu.tel  
**Line Count:** 155  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** RowellE0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21 JUN 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <21 JUN 2004 by schwenja>; APPROVED <10 DEC 2004 by RowellE0>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** HIGHLIGHTS OF DOCUMENT CIRCULATED IN CHIRIQUI ON JANUARY 15, 1975 BY THE "CIVIC DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE  
**TAGS:** PINT, PN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006